



Holyoke Community Charter School

March 2022 Newsletter

Directors News

The end of March brings the MCAS exams for our third through eighth grade students. Helpful information for parents can be found at the Department of Secondary and Elementary Education website (<http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/parents/default.html>).

A detailed MCAS schedule will be sent home. Please make sure that your student is here on these days, on time and well rested. Making our MCAS goal is an important part of our academic goals.



Thank you,
Dr. Pope



Receive FREE COVID-19 testing kits

You can still sign-up for the at-Home testing program

Students who opt-in will receive a weekly Rapid Antigen Test to administer at home on THURSDAYS (regardless of vaccination status).

We strongly encourage parents to opt-in. Please see the school's website for detailed information:

www.hccs-sabis.net/school-news/health-department-covid19

You can opt-in by going to the form at: <https://forms.office.com/r/DS0cTwyF3V>

OR by scanning this QR Code with your smartphone camera



HCCS Mission Statement

“The mission of HCCS is to promote the joy of learning and to prepare children for success as students, workers, and citizens by providing them with high-quality public education.”



Upcoming Events

- ◆ Friday, March 4, 2022- Half-day– Dismissal @ 12pm
- ◆ Tuesday, March 8, 2022– Parent Connection Meeting (5:30pm)
- ◆ Sunday, March 20, 2022– HCCS Cheerleaders march in the Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Parade
- ◆ Friday, March 25, 2022– No School/ Professional Development
- ◆ Saturday, March 26, 2022– Open House (11am-1pm)

Grade K

English: Students will be working on reading and writing words with –ng ending, -ll ending, -all ending, -ing ending. They will be working on how to retell beginning , middle, and end of text. Also, leaning about “GOATS”.

Math: Students will continue to count and write numbers up to 15, and make sets of more/less/same. They will begin the concept of subtraction, and continue to do mental math assessments.

Science: Students will be learning about living and nonliving things.

Social Studies: Students will discuss how travel has changed and how our nation has changed. They will discuss what they can learn from the past. We will begin chapter 5: All About Work.

Spanish: Students will work on unit 6: clothes; and unit 7: fruits. They will learn syllables with d, b, v, c, and q. They will also practice reading and writing skills.

Grade 1

English: In writing, students will begin to learn how to write and complete an opinion paragraph. They will begin by understanding what an opinion is and how we can share our opinions. They will then write an opinion piece and edit it using the steps they learned when editing their thank you letters. In grammar they will talk about prepositions and using commas to list. In phonics and spelling students will learn the sound of diphthongs and consonant blends such as ow, bl, and cl. In reading students will read fables. They will learn what Fable is and how it is different from other stories.

Math: After learning to count to 100 students will learn to count backwards from 100. They will also be able to skip count by 10 to 100.

Science: Students will continue to learn about different forms of energy. They will focus on light energy and how light is reflected off objects. They will learn how shadows are created and how light is blocked when waves cannot travel through certain objects. At the end of the month they start their animal unit. Students will begin to learn what types of shelters are needed for certain animals and how they survive.

Social Studies: This month we will continue our learning in how the past shaped our country. We will focus on the cultures that we have in America, we then get to take a look at influential people from the past.

Spanish: Students will work on chapter 5: animals and chapter 6: food. They will define vocabulary words from Goldilocks and Cuentos Divertidos. They will practice reading and writing skill and syllables with G, LL and Y.



Grade 2

English: Students will learn and read about owls. They will continue to understand what they are reading and answer short-answer questions as well as open-response questions to prepare them for the transition to third grade. They will learn the correct way to write letters to another person with date, heading and signature. In phonics and spelling they will learn about r-controlled vowels, like “are”, “or”, and “ir”, etc, as well as vowel variants like “aw”, “au”, “all”, “al”, “air”, “ear”, and are in words: how to read them, sound them out and how to use it correctly in spelling. In grammar, they will learn about common and proper nouns, as well as using capitals and abbreviations for days of the week and months of the year.

Math: Students will be working on adding and comparing three-digit numbers and place value up to the hundreds. They will learn to add 10 and 100 to a number up to 900. They will start adding 1,2, and 3-digit numbers to a 3-digit number with and without carrying over every place value. As well as the properties of addition, like the zero property ($A+0=A$) and the commutative property ($A+B=B+A$)

Science: Students will learn about motion. Students will think about how objects move, define and describe force and friction, and construct models of simple machines to describe how the parts move.

Social Studies: Students will discuss why we have rules, how we make laws, why people should follow laws, how citizens and government work together, and how countries work together.

Spanish: Unidad 5: mas sobre la casa de Andres; mas sobre la sala de Andres. El sapo y la princesa Libro de trabajo y Diccionario; paginas 6-8.

Grade 4

English: Anthology: Blue Blazes and the Marring of Him– Realistic Fiction. The Rise of Skyscrapers– Nonfiction Article. Writing: Narrative essay. Grammar: Compound sentences and coordinating conjunctions. Focus on punctuation: capitals, periods, and commas.

Math: Mathematics book part 2 Chapter 8– Decimals Chapter 8.1.2, 8.1.3, 8.5– In these sections the students will learn how to compare and order decimals to the hundredths, and how to multiply decimals by powers of 10. Chapter 9– Geometry Students will learn about points, lines, rays, and line segments. They will learn about types of angles, including right angles, straight angles, obtuse and acute angles. They will learn to measure and draw angles. Also, learning about relative positions of two lines, such as parallel, intersecting, and perpendicular lines. They will learn about polygons, such as triangles, quadrilaterals and about lines of symmetry

Science: Life Science book: Chapter 1– plants Chapter 1.1– In this section the students will learn about the main characteristics of plants, and their needs. They will learn about types of roots and their functions, and different types of stems and their functions. They will also learn about chlorophyll and photosynthesis. Chapter 1.2– In this section students will learn about how organisms respond to stimuli in their environment, about deciduous and evergreen plants, and how plants respond to dry conditions, to light, and to gravity. Chapter 1.3– Students will learn about groups of plants: mosses, ferns, flowering plants, and conifers. Chapter 1.4– They will learn about the life cycle of plants.

Social Studies: Students will be learning about the Southwest region of the United States.

Spanish: Students will read short stories and vocabulary key words of “Family Members’ and Vegetables”. Also, students will focus on developing Spanish grammar, understanding “Possessive Adjectives” and how to use them to write sentences in Spanish. Students will use Andres Book pg 89-111, Workbook pg. 84-102 and Grammar Book Reglas pg. 49- 57, Workbook pg. 38-45. MroySpanish Teacher

Grade 3

English: Anthology: Young Firemen of Lakewood– Historical Fiction. Fire Drills in Schools– informational text and Seesaw and Slide-poem. Writing: Narrative Essay. Grammar: Action and helping verbs. Adjectives: comparative and superlative. Spelling: List 11&12.

Math: Mathematics book part 2 Chapter 4.6– Geometric Measurements: In this section the students will learn about perimeter and area. They will learn that perimeter is the distance around a closed figure, and that area of a figure is the amount of square units needed to cover it. Chapter 5– Fractions Chapter 5.1– In this section the students will learn about fractions less than one whole. Pages 58-62. Chapter 5.2 Students will learn about fractions that are equal to one whole. Page 63. Chapter 5.3– Students will learn about fractions that are greater than one whole. Pages 64-66. Chapter 5.4– Students will learn how to locate fractions on a number line. Pages 67-69

Science: Life Science Book Chapter 4– Ecosystem Chapter 4.1– The students will learn about parts of an ecosystem, and how living organisms and nonliving things interact. They will learn about populations, communities, and habitats. Chapter 4.2– Students will learn about producers and consumers in an ecosystem. They will learn about predator-prey relationships, scavengers and decomposers, food chains and food webs and the energy flow in an ecosystem. Chapter 4.3– Students will learn about grasslands, deserts, and forest, including coniferous forests, deciduous forests, and tropical rain forests.

Social Studies: Students will learn about The American Revolution.

Spanish: Anologia El pastor mentiroso. Las aranas de navidad (Antologia). Gramatica: Aprende las reglas Los verbos y El infinitive y las conjugaciones. Bella y la Bestia paginas 12, 13, 14, 15.

Grade 5

English: Students will be working on pronouns, punctuation, and essay writing.

Math: Students will finish the unit on decimals. By the end of the month they will also finish the unit of geometry.

Science: Physical Science: Chapter 6 Section 1: Students will explore forces and motion. They will revisit the topics of forces, friction, gravity, magnets, and magnetism. Life Science: Chapter 7 Sections 1 & 2: Now that we are in life science, we will be exploring ecosystems. They will learn about biodiversity, communities, ecosystems, habitats, populations, consumers, decomposers, predators, prey, food webs and chains.

Social Studies: Students will learn about The United States as a new nation and the people of the new United States.

Spanish: Students will read in the Spanish short stories and vocabulary key words of “The House and Kitchen”. Also, students will focus on developing Spanish grammar understanding Numerical Adjectives and Irregular Verbs: SER, ESTAR, VOY, OIGO. Students will use book and Workbook Habla Ya 1 198-251.

Grade 6

English: Reading and understanding Literature of: Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind-Genre: Poem., Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening-Genre: Poem. Icarus and Daedalus-Genre: Myth. The Myth of Perseus-Genre: Myth. Writing a narrative essay, features of a narrative essay, main task, understanding prewriting skills. Creative writing with narrative stories of various settings in real life and far-off fantasy. Grammar: coordinating conjunctions and the compound sentence. Subordinating conjunctions and the complex sentence. Phrases and sentences. Verbs, degrees of adjectives and adverbs. Vocabulary: understanding spelling, definitions, synonyms, and antonyms using them in multiple sentences and in a multiple paragraph story. Reading aloud and presentations in front of the class: I'd like to get the students used to getting up in front of their peers to present short PowerPoints on a topic of their choosing related to what they are learning in Math, History, Science, Spanish, and English language Arts.

Math: Data: Sampling and surveying. Measures of Central Tendency: Mean, Median, Mode, Range. Also data distribution, tally charts, line plots, scatter plots, box plots and histograms.

Science: Life Science Chapter 1 Sections 1-3: During this chapter and sections, we will be focusing on the organizations of life. They will learn about organs, tissues, and so much more. Life Science Chapter 2 Section 1-2: As they transition into this chapter, they will focus on the human body, learn about the circulatory system, digestive system, respiratory system and more.

Social Studies: Students will learn about the cultures and landscapes of Central America, the Caribbean Islands, and South America.

Spanish: Durante el mes de marzo continuaremos aprendiendo sobre los alimentos, las prendas de vestir, el proceso de ir de compras y comenzaremos el capítulo 6 sobre actividades y deportes.

Grade 8

English: This month we will continue to read the novel Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad by Ann Petry. We will also read the graphic novel Yummy: The Last Days of a Southside Shorty by G. Neri. In writing we will begin narrative essay writing.

Math: Students will demonstrate knowledge of congruency of geometric shapes. Translate, reflect, rotate and dilate geometric shapes on a coordinate plane. Demonstrate knowledge of and apply the Angle Sum Theorem and the Exterior Angle Theorem. Discover and solve direct applications of the Pythagorean Theorem.

Science: Students will work on species variation and evolution.

Social Studies: Students will learn about citizens and the law and types of law. They will learn about the American Legal system.

Grade 7

English: Read, understand and analyze "The King of Mazy May", "Ring Out Wild Bells", "Taming the Bicycle", "The Need for Humility" and "Mohandas Gandhi: The Father of India".

Math: Students will work on circles, surface area and volume. Probability– introduction and simple events and probability models.

Science: Students will learn about chemical changes and chemical reactions.

Social Studies: Students will be learning about the Ancient Greeks and how they have influenced popular culture and modern politics.

Gym

- **K-2**– Students will be swinging and extended implement and hitting a larger ball. They will be able to use the tees and earn more success hitting the ball.
- **3-5**– Students will be working on tee ball. The proper form and some basketball basics to play a game with others.
- **6-8**– Students will be working with cardio movements and trying to boost it.

Computers

Students K-2 -Use and management of trackpad

Students 3 & 4- Basic Concepts of Microsoft Word

Students 6- Advance Concepts of Microsoft Word

